

# State of ageing in South Australia: a summary of a report to the South Australian Office for the Ageing

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**Key Words:**

demographic profile, policy, services

**Research aim:**

This chapter examines some of the specific needs and services that are relevant to older South Australians from cultural and linguistically diverse communities.

**Results/Conclusion:**

Language and cultural barriers together with geographical location and the circumstances of migration and settlement, can significantly influence the ageing process for migrants. Older people with poor English proficiency may face additional issues as they age and even those who have acquired English language skills may revert to their first language in older age as a result of cognitive decline or dementia. The implications for service provision especially in residential aged care facilities, are considerable. While South Australia already has many ethnic aged care service providers there are some smaller and emerging communities that are not yet serviced. As the cultural and linguistically diverse population changes over time service providers will need to be ready to support different groups of older people. In particular programs that reduce social isolation and support cultural practices (such as religious and cultural events and the provision of ethnic meals) must continue to be supported and further developed.

**Implications:**

**Cultural Group(s):**

CALD

**Location of study:**

South Australia

**Age group:**

**Number included in study:**

N/A

**Type of participants:**

**Research approach:**

**Type of data:**

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

**Implications/ Recommendations:**

**Notes:**

Small section of a larger report on the 'State of Ageing' of South Australia's population. Presents demographic data about the spatial distribution of the older CALD populations across metro Adelaide and discusses and implications for service provision.